WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME GOLD

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Minutes of the **Leisure and Amenities Committee** meeting held on
Wednesday 30th September 2026 at 7.10pm at Wootton Community Centre, Harris Way, Wootton, MK43 9FZ.

Agenda no	Agenda item title	Resolution	Action	Power
Open Forum	There were no members of the public or press present and so the meeting continued without adjournment.			Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s1(1).
Present	Cllrs Bygraves, (in the chair), Hensher, Lloyd, O'Dell and Randell. In attendance: Sue Edgar Playford (Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer).			
Absent (no apologies received)	None.			
Agenda no	**Agenda item title**	**Resolution**	**Action**	**Power**
LA26/117	**Apologies for absence.** Cllr Wallace.	Noted for the minutes.	Clerk to keep on file.	Local Government Act 1972, Part V, s85 (1+2) & Sch 12, Part VI, p40.
LA26/118	**Disclosure of local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests.** None.	N/A.	N/A.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 7, s31.
LA26/119	**To consider any dispensation requests received by the Clerk in relation to local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests, not previously recorded.** None received.	N/A.	N/A.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 7, s33.
LA26/120	**Report from outside organisations – for information only.**	N/A.	N/A.	N/A.

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	None.			
LA26/121	**List of correspondence received (copies of correspondence can be requested from the clerk) – for information only.** None.	N/A.	N/A.	N/A.
LA26/122	**Minutes of the previous meeting.** *Minutes are published on the Wootton Parish Council website: https://wootton-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/minutes/.* Members of the Leisure and Amenities Committee are asked to receive and adopt the minutes of the Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held on 26th August 2026.	Resolved to receive and adopt. Proposed: Cllr Randell. Seconded: Cllr Hensher. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to keep on file.	Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, Part VI, p41 (1).
LA26/123	**Matters arising from the minutes – for information only.** • LA24/087 – Topple Testing undertaken at both closed churchyards and Lorraine Road cemetery. All letters are now in situ on headstones/memorials, and the findings are being monitored by the Clerk. • LA26/081 – RoSPA Inspection Reports 2026 – all WPC owned play equipment/play areas including MUGAs, Skate Park and Keeley End Pond. All remedial works are now complete, save for a number of small items allocated to the handyman.	No further comments received.	Clerk to keep on file.	N/A.
LA26/124	**Chairman's report – for information only.**	No report provided.	N/A.	N/A.
LA26/125	**To receive the Income & Expenditure report for all Leisure and Amenities Committee cost centres and Earmarked Reserves report for all cost centres for 2026-27, to consider any budget heading virements – for information only.**	No further comments received.	Clerk to keep on file.	Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel Practitioners' Guide 2026/27.
LA26/126	**To consider next steps in relation to the transfer of land parcel W10a (Land between Wootton Road and Bedford Road comprising 3.56ha) to the Parish Council (as referenced within Policy W10 of Wootton's Neighbourhood Development Plan) and to make recommendation to Full Council as necessary.**	No further update received.	N/A.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.
LA26/127	**To consider next steps in relation to the transfer of land parcel W10b (Land between Keeley Lane and Hall End Road comprising 15.97ha) to the Parish Council (as referenced within Policy W10 of Wootton's Neighbourhood Development Plan) and to make recommendation to Full Council as necessary.**	The Clerk shared written confirmation from The Crown Estate ahead of this meeting, which noted their intent to safeguard this parcel of land for the benefit of the public as open space. Their wish	Cllr Lloyd to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.

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		remained for the Parish Council to submit a land management pack to enable them to better understand future aspirations for the land and ensure the best methodology be implemented for the same. Cllr Lloyd confirmed he would continue to work on the land management pack.		
LA26/128	**To consider a course of action in relation to the proposed extension to Lorraine Road Cemetery and to make recommendation to Full Council as necessary.**	The Clerk was asked to contact The Crown Estate (current owners of the land in question) to request permission to further investigate a potential underground spring or raised water course which was highlighted during the recent drought (much of the area remained lush green grass which drew attention to a potential issue). Concerns have been raised as to its suitability as a burial site.	Clerk to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.
LA26/129	**To receive an update from Cllr Bygraves in relation to a potential volunteer scheme to remedy maintenance issues between plots not accessible with a lawn mower at Lorraine Road Cemetery and both Churchyards at St. Mary's and to make recommendation to Full Council as necessary.**	The Clerk confirmed she was meeting with Mark Lehain on Friday 2nd October 2026 to run through final maintenance requirements, after which students from Wootton Academy would commence the maintenance programme.	Clerk to keep on file.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.
LA26/130	**To consider the addition/creation of bedding/planting areas at the entrance to Lorraine Road Cemetery and the War Memorial, Church Road and to make recommendation to Full Council as necessary.**	After detailed discussion the following was resolved with the same recommendations to be made to Full Council:	Clerk to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.

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		• Clerk to establish whether Bedford Borough Council could plant 150 tulip bulbs at the War Memorial – 75 each side of the path in the grass (currently in the possession of Cllr O'Dell). • Clerk to obtain quotations for two or three-tier planters at the entrance to Lorraine Road Cemetery – to be determined at a future meeting of this committee. • Clerk to ensure 2027/28 precept provision included the purchase and ongoing maintenance of the above-referenced planters. • Formal bedding/planting/planters for the War Memorial would be determined by this committee in 1-2 years' time, once the planted tulips were spent. Proposed: Cllr Randell. Seconded: Cllr O'Dell. Resolved by all present.		

Meeting closed at 7.34pm.

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